

GROUPS I-V (2nd Remark)

Additionally, Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's proposition that the "inventions ... have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter."

Applicants respectfully submit that the invention appears to be classified within Class 707. Applicant respectfully submits that the following classifications under the U.S. Manual of Classification cited by the Examiner do not appear to directly relate to the present claims:

1. **Class 709** ELECTRICAL COMPUTERS AND DIGITAL PROCESSING
SYSTEMS: MULTICOMPUTER DATA TRANSFERRING OR PLURAL PROCESSOR
SYNCHRONIZATION

200 MULTICOMPUTER DATA TRANSFERRING

223 · Computer network managing

2. **Class 370** MULTIPLEX COMMUNICATIONS

254 NETWORK CONFIGURATION DETERMINATION

255 · Using a particular learning algorithm or technique

256 .. Spanning tree

257 · In a bus system

258 .. In a ring system

3. **Class 369** DYNAMIC INFORMATION STORAGE OR RETRIEVAL

272.1 STORAGE MEDIUM STRUCTURE

280 · Specific disc profile

4. **Class 705** DATA PROCESSING: FINANCIAL, BUSINESS PRACTICE,
MANAGEMENT, OR COST/PRICE DETERMINATION

1 AUTOMATED ELECTRICAL FINANCIAL OR BUSINESS PRACTICE OR
MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENT

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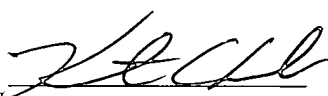
• Electronic shopping (e.g., remote ordering)

5. Class 713, subclass 351 – [DOES NOT EXIST according to now-current version of the Manual of Classification available online through www.uspto.gov.]

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of all restrictions in the present application and examination in a single application of Groups I-V.

Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 4, 2004.	
	<u>10-4-2004</u>
Attorney for Applicant(s)	Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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